

Status of the Claims:

Original Claims 1, 5-7, 11, 18, and 29 are pending in the present Application.

The following listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of Claims in the Application.

Listing of the Claims:

Please amend the Claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid consisting of a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 58, ~~or~~ and a ~~complement~~ complement thereof.

Claims 2-4 (Canceled)

Claim 5 (Previously presented) The isolated nucleic acid of claim1 wherein said nucleic acid is detectably labeled.

Claim 6 (Canceled)

Claim 7 (Currently amended) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 5 wherein said label is selected from the group consisting of radioactive, fluorescent, chemiluminescent, and chromogenic agents, and magnetic particles.

Claims 8-17 (Canceled)

Claim 18 (Previously presented) A composition comprising an isolated nucleic acid of claim 1, or a complement thereof.

Claims 19-28 (Canceled)

Claim 29 (Previously presented) A transformed cell having the antisense of a nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.

30-31 (canceled)

Claim 32 (Withdrawn) A method of identifying osteoarthritis modulators comprising the steps of:

- (a) contacting a cell having a receptor for a nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 58, or a complement thereof, with a test compound; and
- (b) detecting the affinity of the test compound to the receptor.

Claim 33 (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 32 further comprising the step of labeling the test compound.

Claim 34 (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 33 wherein said step of labeling a test compound comprises coupling the test compound with a radioisotope.

Claim 35 (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 34 wherein said radioisotope comprises ^{125}I , ^{35}S , ^{14}C , or ^3H .

Claim 36 (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 32 wherein said step of detecting the affinity of the test compound to the receptor comprises direct counting of radioemmission or scintillation counting.

Claim 37 (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 32 wherein said step of detecting the affinity of the test compound to the receptor comprises measuring the rate at which a cell acidifies its environment.

Claim 38 (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 37 wherein the step of measuring the rate at which a cell acidifies its environment is performed by a light-addressable potentiometric sensor.

Claim 37 (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 32 wherein said step of labeling a test compound comprises coupling the test compound with an enzymatic label.

Claim 39 (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 39 wherein said enzymatic label comprises horseradish peroxidase, alkaline phosphatase, or luciferase.

Claim 40 (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 32 wherein said cell is of mammalian origin.

Claim 41 (Withdrawn) A method of identifying osteoarthritis modulators comprising the steps of:

- (a) contacting a cell having a receptor for a nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 58, or a complement thereof, with a receptor ligand or biologically-active portion thereof to form an assay mixture,
- (b) contacting said assay mixture with a test compound, and
- (c) determining the ability of the test compound to interact with the receptor, wherein determining the ability of the test compound to interact with the receptor comprises determining the ability of the test compound to preferentially bind to the receptor as compared to the ability of the ligand, or the biologically active portion thereof, to bind to the receptor.

Claim 43 (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 42 wherein said step of determining the ability of the test compound to interact with the receptor comprises measuring direct binding with an Enzyme-Linked Immunoassay.

Claim 44 (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 42 wherein said step of determining the ability of the test compound to interact with the receptor comprises the step of detecting a cellular response.

Claim 45 (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 44 wherein said step of detecting a cellular response comprises measuring intracellular Ca^{2+} levels.

Claim 46 (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 44 wherein said step of detecting a cellular response comprises measuring intracellular diacylglycerol levels.

Claim 47 (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 44 wherein said step of detecting a cellular response comprises measuring intracellular IP³ levels.

Claim 48 (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 44 wherein said step of detecting a cellular response comprises measuring development, differentiation or proliferation of said cell.